

CONSTABULARY (IRELAND.)

RETURN to an Order of the Honourable The House of Commons,
dated 4 July 1862;—*for*,

COPY "of a RESOLUTION on the subject of the IRISH CONSTABULARY,
adopted by the Grand Jury of County of *Tipperary*, assembled at *Clonmel*
at the late Special Commission for that County."

THE Grand Jury assembled at the Special Commission for the county of *Tipperary*, now holding at *Clonmel*, consider it their imperative duty to call the attention of the Government to the constitution and discipline of the constabulary force, with the earnest hope that they may take into their consideration how far that body fulfil their mission as a preventive or detective police, and, in so doing, the Grand Jury beg most distinctly to be understood as not making any hostile movement against the Government, but as being wholly influenced by a sincere desire to stop the progress of crime, which is so disastrous and so disgraceful to this portion of Her Majesty's dominions.

For some years past the constabulary have become more and more a military force, and in exact proportion as that system has been established, their usefulness as a domestic force has been weakened and impaired.

The Grand Jury wish particularly to call the attention of the Executive to three points: first, that the individuals composing the force are taught not alone to look to their chief in Dublin as the only source from which promotion or reward is to be expected, but that any expression of approval or recommendation from the local magistrates, no matter how well deserved, or how earnestly expressed, is a positive injury and actual bar to professional preferment.

That, the country being divided into districts, each officer, constable, or sub-constable, is confined to his own peculiar area of action, and that no properly organized system of communicating intelligence of the commission of crime or outrage is established between one district and another; and as one instance amongst many that have come before them, both in their collective and individual capacity as grand jurors and magistrates, they beg leave to call attention to the fact, that the murderous attack upon Colonel Knox at Templemore was not reported at Borrisoleigh Station, five miles off, until 24 hours after the transaction; and they have no doubt that a similar remissness took place in regard of the other stations in the vicinity.

Thirdly. That as the principal use of police is to watch and protect life and property in the several districts, their recent equipment, with a heavy and delicate weapon, such as the rifle and sword bayonet, now in use, render it impossible for them to pursue a supposed delinquent over a close or hilly country, nor does it leave them the unembarrassed use of their limbs in close conflict.

The Grand Jury, however, are most anxious to record their opinion of the general good conduct, sobriety, and intelligence of the members of the constabulary force, and to express their opinion that the failure of the system is owing, not to the individuals, but to military organization established at head quarters.

For Self and Fellows,
Wm. Barker, Foreman.

(Copy.)

Edwin Sallieir, Secretary of the Grand Jury.
County of *Tipperary*,
Dated this 10th July 1862.

CONSTANT (JERLANO)

COPY of a Manuscript on the subject of the
BIRTH CERTIFICATE, adopted by the Grand
Jury of County of Fingery, recorded in
Chancery at the late Special Commission for
that County.

(Ed. Report)

Printed, by the Press of Keweenaw, in the Parish,
on July 1864.
